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[REDACTED]

Comment. The unsettled jurisdiction over the Institute is of great concern to the Austrian government which would like to restore to the Institute the prominence it had [REDACTED]

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3 Comment. It is not known if the firm does any work for the Institute.

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CLASSIFICATION

S-E-C-R-E-T

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

## INFORMATION REPORT

REPORT

CD NO.

COUNTRY

Austria

DATE DISTR. 25 March 1955

SUBJECT

Research Institute for Naval Engineering in Vienna

NO. OF PAGES 2

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PLACE  
ACQUIREDNON-ENCL.  
(LISTED BELOW)

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DATE OF  
INFO.

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THIS IS EVALUATED INFORMATION

1. The Schiffbautechnische Versuchsanstalt (Research Institute for Naval Engineering, also known as the Model Testing Basin) is located at Brigittenauer Laende 256, Vienna XX (Soviet sector). Formerly a combination of private and government interests, the Institute is probably still backed by private industry although the installation comes under the direction of the Austrian Ministry for Transport and Nationalized Industries. The building, which is believed to be the property of the Austrian government, houses a model testing basin 180 meters long, 10 meters wide and five meters deep.<sup>1</sup> 25X1
2. Before the war, the Institute had been the property of the Erste Donau Dampfschiffahrts Gesellschaft, Vienna I. Immediately after the war, the Ministry for Transport and Nationalized Industries repaired, at considerable cost, the damage caused to the building by a direct bomb hit. Even though some of the machines had been destroyed, the Institute resumed operations. At this point, the Soviets assumed control over the use of the model testing basin. None of the equipment has been removed, but the Soviets do not allow the Austrians to exercise more than minimal control over the Institute.<sup>2</sup>
3. The activities of the Institute are supervised by Ingenieur Kretschmer (fnu). The former Austrian director Dr. Ing. Friedrich Lebers has retired. 25X1  
The Institute accepts orders from anyone connected with shipping, mainly those engaged in Danube river traffic, for such work as repairs, construction of some craft, construction of models for barges and motors, testing of instruments and materials. The Institute does not do the actual designing for any of the work accepted. A large amount of work is performed for the Soviets, who are believed to pay for it. 25X1
4. At about the beginning of 1954, the Soviets sought to have work done at the model test basin on the acoustic control of submarines but did not have much success. As of late December 1954, no research was carried out at the Institute.
5. The Soviets and Satellites also utilize the services of the firm Otto A. Ganser & Co., Feinmechanische Werkstaetten, Schottenfeldgasse 55, Vienna VII, which produces ships' instruments. The director of this firm is Egon Ganser and its administrator (Gesamtlicher Verwalter) is Dr. Berta List-Ganser.<sup>3</sup>

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